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Chief, German Bureau

28 April 1953

Chief, FBIS

BBC Reporting on Technical Characteristics
of Broadcasting

1. During the recent visit of the Chief, FBIS to the London Bureau, it was agreed with the Head BBC Monitoring Service that requirements on the BBC Monitoring Service by FBIS will be limited to information for the use of FBIS and matters clearly within the responsibility of the two monitoring services.

2. This agreement precludes acceptance of the requirement apposed by Mr. Stanley Holberg as discussed on 16 April. It is requested that Mr. Holberg be informed that the BBC is not acting on this requirement.

3. Appropriate channels for the requirement exist and are cited for your information: The Senior Representative, Frankfurt should address his request to the Senior Representative, London who in turn can pass the requirement to the Director of External Services BBC. The Director of External Services is alerted to this specific requirement but will appreciate confirmation through appropriate channels in order that the pattern for future requirements may be well established.

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Distribution:

- Orig. & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - Admin. files
- 1 - AMW
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17 April 1953

Memorandum for

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1. I am writing this memorandum in order to formalize the request for information that we discussed the other day. I have had a further talk with the radio people about whom I told you, and we decided that the simplest way to handle the problem would be to present you with a very general request, since the requirement for information is fluid and will in any case have to be adapted to the amount of service the people in London feel that they can provide. Generally, then, the radio station would like to have information about the reception of their programs in the target area that can be used as a critique of their broadcasts from a technical point of view. They would like to get this information as often as it can conveniently be supplied. I assume that at a minimum it would deal with audibility, strength of signal, and interference, and I have been told that negative reports when the broadcasts cannot be received would also be helpful.

2. I have confirmed the fact that there will be no need for information regarding the content of the broadcasts.

3. The programs will be broadcast by two transmitters in the Frankfurt area. One of them is considerably more directional than the other, and both will try to reach the same target. Present plans are to use the transmitters simultaneously on the same broadcasts. I have been told that they should be in operation in ten days or two weeks from now.

4. I shall appreciate your discussing this request en principe with the people in London and letting me know through Mr. Hoffman what their reaction is. In the meanwhile, I shall give Mr. Hoffman the technical data regarding frequencies, schedules, etc., so that he will be able to relay it to London if and when it is needed.

Stanley M. Holberg
Stanley M. Holberg